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EXHIBIT #12
DATE Jan 12 2011
HB 152

January 12, 2011

TO: Members of the House State Administration Committee
FROM: Joy Bruck, State President AARP Montana
RE: Opposition to HB 152

Madame Chair and members of the committee for the record I am Joy Bruck, State President of AARP Montana, an organization with over 155,000 members in this state. AARP believes that states should have a voter registration system that encourages citizens to participate in voting. We are concerned that HB 152 will make it more difficult for people to register and therefore to vote.

The Department of Transportation estimates that between 6-12% of voters nationally do not have government issued photo IDs. This is a significant number of people who under this bill would be required to get a Montana ID under 61-12-Part 5 or a tribal ID. Obtaining a Montana ID takes time and costs \$8. Under the current law someone can register using any photo ID, a utility bill, paycheck, government check or other government document that shows the person's name and address in Montana. This allows a person more opportunity to register, but still requires adequate proof of identification. Limitations under HB 152 will make it more difficult for people to register to vote.

Our current system of identification need to register to vote is working well. HB 152 puts into place unnecessary restrictions that will make it more difficult for people to register to vote. We urge you to table HB 152.